THE COMIC READER #34

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ACADEMY OF COMIC BOOK FANS AND COLLECTORS
PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GLEN D. JOHNSON, BOX126, CROWNPOINT, NEW MEXICO 87313

February, 1965 25¢

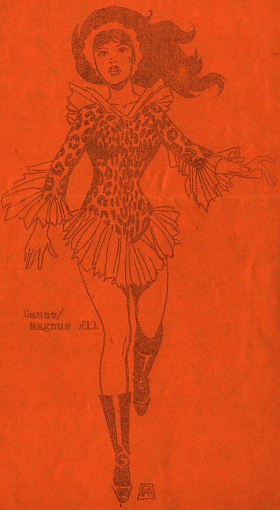
THE COMIC READER is published and edited monthly by Glen D. Johnson. TCR is a non-profit monthly amateur fanzine published for the enjoyment of comic fans. The price is four issues at $1.00 and five issues for $1.00 to supporting members of the Academy. Single copies are 25¢, 20¢ for Academy members. PLEASE...no more than $1.00 will be excepted in advance for TCR. Until coupons are available, you must mention you are a member of the Academy to get your reduction. When coupons are available, send these or there will be no discount. When ordering, specify the issue you want. If not, you will receive the current one.

ZINE REVIEW. Remember to send Jeremy Barry a review copy of your zine for reviewing in "The Ego Crusher". For the small cost of mailing him an issue, you will receive a free plug.

ADDRESSED ENVELOPES are no longer necessary when ordering TCR, but I do appreciate this and it does cut down on the work I must do. It is not necessary to put stamps on "nine" inch envelopes. If you wish TCR mailed in a manila envelope, you must send these and add a 5¢ stamp to each one. A WORD TO THE WISE...as soon as an issue is printed, I do as much in one night as possible. This usually means stapling the issue together and filling the addressed envelopes. The other issues are filled the next day, but the envelopes are mailed out a day earlier.

ADVERTISING IN TCR. Only ads excepted in advance will run in TCR. TCR is not an adzine, and only a small amount of space is provided for each issue. Only half page ads for fanzine are exceptable, and the cost is $1.00. Full page classified ads sell for $2.00. Write for exceptance.

PLEASE NOTE...I listed the address of Ray Bartel, editor of EPIC COMICS as 16733, and it should be 15733 Virginia Ave., Paramount, Calif., 90723.



Danae/
Magnus #11

REMEMBER...Jerry Bails awards a prize to the best news source each issue. If you hear of anything of interest, send in the news. You might win original art or prints. Winner for this issue is John Fahey.

FROM RICHARD WEINGROFF, "Anyone who ordered Slam-Bang #3, and has not received it yet should contact me and I'll send them a copy."

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BACK ISSUES OF TCR. Sorry, I have only back issues of #26 and 28 #26 is incomplete, and sells for five cents, #28 is 25¢. For those who ordered #32 or 33, and did not receive it, I'm sending #34 instead.

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CONTRIBUTORS

Russ Manning--------------------cover
Ronn Foss----------------------page 7
Steve Kelez--------------------page 5
Jeremy Barry------------------page 17
Paul Gambaccini----------------page 3
John McGeehan------------------page 8

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NEWS SOURCES: John Fahey, Richard Weingroff, Jerry Pritchett, Russ Manning, John Michel, Ron Fradkin, Robert Fitzgerald, E. Nelson Bridwell, Jeremy Barry, Jerry Bails, and Paul Lieffer, and Paul Vizcarrondo.

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Hawkman, Batman-D.C.

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LATE ZINE. The Comic Hero #2 will be late. Editor Jerry Hasson also has a new address for those who may want to order, 2665 Byron Place, Los Angeles, Calif., 90046.

NEW ADDRESS: Richard Ellsworth, 1263 Apple Ave., Provo, Utah, 84601.

DON'T FORGET, THE ALLEY AWARDS ... WILL BE IN THE NEXT ISSUE, #35.

QUESTIONS. Fans who ask questions such as, how much is a sub to TCR; what is the address and how do I get the newest issue of Rocket's Blast, and do you have back issues of TCR, will most likely not receive a reply from me. These questions have been asked, and each is answered within this issue. The chances are unlikely that I'll answer other questions if you don't send an addressed envelope for TCR.

BOB DUNCAN writes "On Saturday the 24th at about 5:30pm NBC's (radio) "Monitor" devoted ten minutes to comic collecting. First off they informed the listeners of the value of and I quote "old worthless comics". Next a NYC book store owner/dealer came on the scene to tell the history of comics and run down a few prices. But sadly enough they gave their listeners not so much as one hint as of where to sell these."

ANNOUNCING BATWING! The world's first "ama pulp mag" is now available! In issue #1 is THE VAMPIRE in "The Empire of Mr. Black" written by Sherman Howard, and article/checklist on ZERRO COMICS by John McGeehan, a new exciting story of SSC's dynamic hero, THE DEFENDER, with art by Larry Kopf, plus art and story by Howard Waldrop, BATMAN's editorial "THE SKULL AND CROSSBONES," a special cover by Larry Kopf and much more! If you like thrilling stories of mystery and suspense heroes then order BATWING #1 now. Only 35¢ a copy from Larry Herndon, 1830 Highland Dr., Carrollton, Texas! For thrills, action, danger, and suspense, order BATWING #1.

COMIC WORLD is the comics slanted fanzine which sells for 40¢ per single copy (50¢ if you want the issues sent flat), and is devoted to the principle that any subject worth writing about is worth covering in depth and detail.

Issue #6 is still available so long as the copies last. The issue features Glen Johnson's analysis of the 7 Soldiers of Victory, the old D.C. group of heroes from LEADING COMICS, along with an article on horror comics phenomena of the early fifties, plus an extra length Information Center. Copies of #3 and #5 are both still available at regular prices. #3 features a lead article on the Yellow Claw, #5 present's Glen Johnson's coverage of the SKYMAN. Send to: Robert Jennings, 3819 Chambers Drive, Nashville 11, Tenn. 37211

Alter Ego #8

"Supermen South---Mexico's Super-Heroes" by Roy Thomas. A new ECLIPSE adventure by Ronn Foss and Drury Moroz. The First Great Days of Blackhawk by Derrill Rothermich. The last, previously unpublished Marvel Family adventure in story synopsis by Otto Binder, art by Biljo. Glen Johnson on the Justice Society of America. Plus more articles, artwork, cartoons, etc. (40 pages or more!)

Price of AE #8 is 50¢ or 60¢ in manila envelope. Order today from: Roy Thomas, 3600 Hallmark Lane, Apt. G, St. Louis, Missouri, 63125.

ACADEMY NEWS

...by Paul Gambaccini

The first thing I want to do this issue is to clear up some gross misconceptions about the Alley Awards, Supporting Memberships, and so forth. First off, the final items on the Alley Ballot were not "fixed," nor did any one person choose them. They were decided upon by the Executive Board through FORUM. Each member who used his privelege as a nominator did so without any prompting by any other Board member. In other words, they were given the ballot with the instructions, none partial, and asked to send it back to me when completed. Thus who exercised their privilege, or who offered suitable reasons for not doing so, were: Paul Gambaccini, Ed Lahmann, Jerry Bails, Glen Johnson, Bill Dubay, Don Glut, the McGeehans, George Pacinda, G.P. Love, Peter Philips, Bill Spicer, Steve Perrin, Al Kuhfeld, Dennis Richard, Paul Moslander, Sol Davidson, David Kaler, Larry Herndon, Howard Keltner, Richard Kyle, Phil Seuling, John Brosnan, Roy Thomas, Margaret Gemignani, Dave Bibby, Rick Durell, Marc Nadel, Dick Memorich, Jeremy Barry, Claude Held, Mickey Martin, Ross Kight, and Andrew Fraknoi. (Kenny Heineman cast a late ballot and Ronn Foss felt he hadn't seen enough current comics to vote.) All other Board members, for reasons unbeknownest to me, did not nominate. You may wish to keep the above list for voting time in June---either as a list of those who demonstrated their active interest in this particular aspect of their duties or, as a few unfortunately seem to want to do, as a list of fans to chop for faulty nominations. I can personally guarantee that none of these fans were influenced to any great degree by any other Board member(although naturally they may have talked about the comics and fanzines in normal correspondence).

Next misconception: SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIPS must be renewed now. Supporting memberships for 1965 are good only for the year 1965 and including January of 1966; Supporting Memberships for 1964 were good only up to this issue. It doesn't matter to me when you came in last year, mainly because I have no idea of such. This may seem a little harsh, but I assume(and hope) that it was clear to you when you enrolled say, last November(although since anyone doing so should have at least gotten the WHO'S WHO and/or Supplement, Alley report, and could have obtained his 5¢ discount on monthly TCRs, so should have gotten at least his money's worth). To obtain benefits for 1965-Jan. '66, one <u>must</u> renew membership by sending $2 to me, Paul Gambaccini, 8 Elizabeth Drive, Westport, Connecticut, 06882.

Now, as for the coupons. You should be getting them this mongh to be able to put them into immediate effect, although if some chance decrees they won't be out to you until early March, blame it on a mix-up. Don't worry, you'll get 'em...and you use them thusly:

#1: Notice Glen's offer for TCR...that is, either the 20¢ per ish for Supporting Members or whatever subscription offer he may list on the contents page. By mailing him coupon #1, and by writing your name and address on the back, you will guarantee that he will know you are a Supporting Member for all issues up to that of Nanuary '66; So, your name would be on file whenever you ordered. Simply point out that you previously sent in coupon #1. This eliminates confusion, cheating, chaos, and other undesired items...this one should besent immediately upon receipt.

#2-5. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Jerry Bails of 22529 Karam Ct., Warren, Michigan, 48091 for information on these deals that he is handling.

#12: Free WHO'S WHO listing. Send it in with the form from last issue, or, if you have no questionaire, send Glen 10¢ for one.

#7: Roy Thomas(Apt. G, 3600 Hallmark Lane, St. Louis 25, Missouri) has announced that those sending him this coupon will be able to receive, for $2.75, a 4-issue subscription of his enlarged ALTER EGO. (AE will be at least 48 photo-offset/litho/whatevef pages each time around!) This price(normal price $3) will include mailing in a large manila engelope(mint condition). Those who have seen fandom's foremost zine agree itis more than worth its price. This offer will also be announced to Supporting Members in AE #8.

With this coupon on file, Roy will be able to tell you are a Supporting Member when you take advantage of this offer and one that will be announced in the next issue of TCR. I also hope to announce all details concerning the Fanzine Library next month.

Speaking of the Fanzine Library, as promised, here is a rundown on the vote on the charter that was published last issue:

NO: no opposing votes.

YES: Paul Gambaccini, Jerry Bails, Kenny Heineman, Don and Margaret Thompson, Claude Held, John and Tom McGeehan, Ross Kight, Jon Swartz, Dennis Richard, Paul Moslander, Larry Lattanzi, Bob Jennings, Andrew Fraknoi, Marc Nadel, Al Kuhfeld, Rick Durell, Dave Bibby, and Pete Philips. Oh yes, Steve Perrin and Sol Davidson, too.

Any possible additions or corrections to this list will be given next issue.

A WHO'S WHO will be published in 1965, during the summer months. I hope for many improvements in this edition, such as a listing of fas by states, a separate section for dealers, and so forth.

Supporting members are entitled to a free listing in the biographical section. Those who are not supporting members, but wish to be listed, should send 15¢ with their questionaire. (For both members and non-members who didn't get a questionaire, Glen will send you one for 10¢.) SMs should send coupon #12 with their questionaire, with their name and address on back(as they should do for ALL coupons). All completed questionaires should be sent to me. Because I want this project announced everywhere, such as in the highly-circulated ROCKET'S BLAST-COMICOLLECTOR, I am extending the deadline for questionaires to May 30. However, it would be appreciated if you could send yours in beforehand.

As you know, FORUM is the newsletter distributed monthly to Executive Board members only. A new voting/ballot system has been instituted with this month's edition, #5. Thus, several key decisions will be announced next issue. IN THE MEANTIME---we have suggestions for a name change. This one should be positively the one all Academy membees, both Supporting and general, want. Should it be the current Academy of Comic Book Fans and Collectors...or the A of C ART F and C? Or any other(A of C STRIPS F and C)? The Board membershave cast a preliminary referendum---I want a mandate(groan, a familiar maligned word) if this name is to be changed at all. Remember, this should be permanent... for items such as membership cards, national magazine coverage, and stationary and such...what do you think in regards to the name change? And do we need membership cards?

The Alley Report will appear in the next issue. Reserve your copy now. The results will also appear in a future edition of ROCKET'S BLAST-COMICOLLECTOR, as all fans should know what's going on.

I may not have mentioned this before, but the Academy is advertising in the FANDOM CATALOG/GUIDEBOOK TO COMICS FANDOM/whatever it will be called. -Paul Gambaccini, Ex. Sec.

ZATANNA will enlist the aid of the ATOM in a forthcoming Atom in which she tries to find her father in a sub-atomic world. Zatanna will probably appear more and more in future guest-starring with such heroes as Green Lantern and possibly the Justice League.

JLA #35 features "Battle Against the Bodiless Uniforms", and cover features Wonder Woman Flash, Green Lantern and Batman.

HAWKMAN #7 features "Attack of the Crocodile Men" and "Return of the IQ Gang".

GREEN LANTERN #36 features "Secret of the Power-Ring Robot". It has one of the most unusual covers of the year. Other forthcoming D.C. stories are: FLASH #152 featuring the Trickster; BATMAN #171 will bring back the Riddler; DETECTIVE #338 features "Batman's Super Powered Punch"; 80 PAGE GIANT FLASH cover features part of the cover of Flash #123.

From the Walter Winchell column, "Cartoonist Bob Kane and Gloria Hovick, art gallery director, at The Pen and Pencil. She reminds you of Liz Taylor...."

MAGNUS #11. Russ Manning is now illustrating BEASTS OF STEEL. This Magnus story is concerned with the animals of North America. It is being written by Russ to answer the many letters that wondered about animals in the 41st Century.

KORAK. Russ has just finished penciling the lead Korak story for Korak #8. It is entitled "Treacherous Sands".

CUSTOM COMICS, INC. Wrangler jeans gives free give away comics with certain jeans. The address is the same as the ACG, and two artists that I've noticed who have worked in them are Ogden Whitney and Schaffenberger. There are others, but I can't tell who they are.

"SHAZAM and all that" is the title of an article appearing in the Jan. 16, issue of Ave Maria National Catholic Weekly. The article discusses Superman, Batman, Capt. Marvel, the Phantom, Daredevil and the Claw, Black Hood, Sub-Mariner, etc. Cost is 25¢ from Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame, Indiana.

A NEW MARVEL TITLE. "Yancy Street Journal #6", published by Marty Arbunich and Bill Dubay mentioned that Stan Lee is planning to publish a new title, but wished to keep the artists and writer a secret. A far out guess would be that Larry Ivie will write and illustrate the title if the rumor is true.

Another item from Marvel....Marvel might put out a book concerning Sgt. Fury's activities as a spy after the war, patterned after "The Man From U.N.C.L.E.". Instead of Thrush they'd have HYDRA!

LOIS LANE, July issue, finds the gal reported finding "proof" that Bruce Wayne is Superman.

SECRET AGENT 007. Albert Broccoli and Harry Saltzman, producers of the movies Secret Agent 007, were offered $1,500.00 by CBS-TV for the rights to a TV series. CBS was turned down because the producers felt a TV series would hurt the Bond movies. ABC-Radio however, convinced them that radio, being a medium of the imagination, would help the Bond movies. Next fall will be the starting time for "The Adventures of James Bond"! It'll be a half-hour series of one show a week for 52 weeks!

FLASH GORDON, Dell comics, issued in 1950's. The artists were: #1-John Lehti, #2- Frank Thorne, #3-Frank Thorne.

WHERE THEY ARE NOW. Charles Biro (Daredevil, Crime Does Not Pay editor) is running a small advertising Agency on Long Island. Lev Gleason (publisher of Crime Does Not Pay, etc.) is in the real estate business-upstate N.Y. Mike Roy (The Heap, the Saint, the Fat Man) now doing "Akwas" an Indian strip for Columbia Features, Inc. Jack Cole, old Quality artist is dead. Joe Manneely, old Timely artist is dead. Dan Barry of Flash Gordon is living in Greece! Mat Baker, old Fiction House artist is dead.

CHARLTON ARTIST. The excellent artist who occasionally does KID MONTANA signs his work with a "P.M.". It can be found in the lower left hand corner.

TARZAN T.V. series. CBS-TV is going to have a Tarzan series, not in Africa but on Venus. They say it was too much trouble to put it on in Africa and get all the things for it.

STEVE DITKO will be concentrating on DOC STRANGE AND SPIDERMAN Annuals and Jack Kirby will take over the HULK series for awhile.

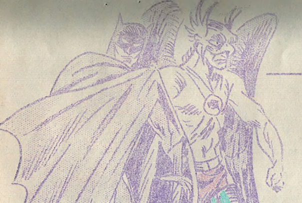
SUPERMAN. The all-Luthor 80 pager will have a Swan cover drawn for the imaginary novel "Clark Kent's Brother", but it was never used. The June SUPERBOY has the Boy of Steel meeting his father, Jor-El, when he was a boy. In the June ADVENTURE, the Legion goes back in time to take sides in a war between Krypton and Atlantis. The July ADVENTURE Beast Boy, of the former Legion of Super-Outlaws, is back. The May ACTION begins a new series of stories featuring a new secret life for Clark Kent. The interplanetary gamblers from "Superman's Sacrifice" return in the June WORLD'S FINEST, when Superman must gamble for Batman's life. A third Congorilla reprint is in this one, and a new Congorilla story is in the works for JIMMY OLSEN.

SHOWCASE. The second Dr. Fate/Hourman story has a sequence featuring some of Dr. Fate's old foes. The text tells about the career of the original Psycho-Pirate. Nelson Bridwell wrote this one-pager. This issue will be followed by a second JSA team- Starman and Black Canary. Black Canary's appearance will reveal that she's married, and Starman's a widower. Murphy Anderson says the most likely prospects for a third team are Sandman and Dr. Mid-Nite, but nothing definite yet. Meantime, Starman and B.C. battle Starman's old foe, the Mist.

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA. The June issue, #35 cover-features Superman, Flash, Hawkman and Green Arrow. The one after will be another JLA-JSAer. JSA members will include Hawkman, Atom, Flash, G.L., Dr. Fate, Mr. Terrific and Johnny Thunder. The plot sounds good; Suppose some could alter the past so that Abin Sur never crashed on Earth-Barry Allen never gained super-speed-Batman was defeated on his first case-in short, change history so that THERE IS NO JLA!?!

BRAVE AND THE BOLD will feature TEEN TITANS-Robin, Aqualand, Kid Flash and hold your hat ---Wonder Girl!?! Don't ask how they'll do it, but she is featured on the cover.

STAR HAWKINS is being inked by Gil Kane, and it's been said he is having a ball doing it. Richard Weingroff pointed out in a letter to A-E #3 that Kane only signs his name when he does both stages of art.



QUOTES FROM THE READERS

Clay Kimball
106 W. Del. Ave.
Draper, N.C.

On this discussion of the first letter page in a comic mag, I have a mag here called "Funny Pages" dated Jan., 1940, which, while it doesn't have a letter page exactly, it has two pages on which it reproduced drawings submitted by the readers. Presumably, this feature also appeared in earlier issues. This mag also contained a character called "The Owl", who, tho' pretty bad, is rather reminiscent of Hawkman. If he appeared in earlier issues, and he apparently did, he pre-dates the Hawk. Could the Hawk have been derivative? ((If "The Owl" is the same character that appeared in Crackajack, I'm familiar with him, but know nothing else.))

Gardner F. Fox
address withheld

Just to keep the record straight...EARTH THE FORBIDDEN PLANET came from my typewriter and not from that of John Broome, as mentioned in COMIC READER #32.//There is a little story behind this yarn. It was done originally for Mystery in Space #8 (June-July, 1952), where it was presented under my name—story by Gardner F. Fox. I am sure one of your comic book collectors will be glad to verify this for you.//Then after the passage of some years (where do they go?) some art work was lost at DC—and to fill the void and to meet a deadline, editor Julie Schwartz yanked EARTH—THE FORBIDDEN PLANET from its limbo and published it anew in Strange Adventures #148 (Jan., 1963)...without my by-line.

Leopold Beaudet
3905 University St.
Montreal, P. Quebec

I'm glad that A.C.G. didn't get the rights to Skyman, after the pitiful efforts that are Magicman & Nemesis. As it is, one can have pleasant memories of the past, untainted by what might have resulted in the present. ((Although I'm not crazy about Magicman, I do like Nemesis. I feel that Richard Hughes's reasons for making both Magicman and Nemesis, the way he did, was mainly to hold the s-f readers. If these were out and out costume heroes, he might lose a great number of readers. As for the A.C.G. publishing Skyman, well, I think that if they were to go all out with a costume hero, we'd sit up and take notice. By the way, SKYMAN is back in 1965. Look in Herbie #8. He's there, and the great Whitney still is tops in my book.))

Steve Grant
7218 Dartmouth
University City, Mo.
63130 (HEADLINE)

A remark in one of your previous letters about reprinting the Captain Comet stories deserves further comment. Why not ask Jack Schiff, the editor who is going to give us, it appears, a version of Star Hawkins comparable to Schwartz's, to reprint them in Strange Adventure? I've already written him complimenting about the first "new" Star Hawkins story.//Some points to ponder: what if Anderson inked the JLA instead of Sachs? Sedowsky's great action would blend well with Anderson's detail, I think. And if the JLA reverted to the individual-chapter-for-each-hero format, we could see Kubert draw Hawkman (sigh!), as well as better style approximation of each hero. ((We can all dream.))

COMIC FANZINES ANYONE?

by John McGeehan

This is a listing of all active comic amateur publications and still available issues of defunked ones whose existance that I am aware of as of 12/20/64. The following is a key to the information given in this listing & in the order of which it is usually listed.

1) The title or titles of the zine.
2) The number of the latest issue published that I'm aware of.
3) The mailing date (month & year) of the latest issue prior to June of '64. If on or after June, '64 no date is given as I do not have the accurate month date on all publication.
4) The name and address of the present (past & future if needed) publisher of the zine.
5) The initials ERB in parenthesis (ERB) are given for all zines devoted to Edgar Rice Burroughs. Tho' only a MUST for devotes of the master of escapist fiction, various issues of them contain valuable, informative, & interesting info & pics on all aspects of comic art re Tarzan, John Carter & the other characters he created.
6) The initials, as, in parenthesis (as) are given for all zines devoted to & containing only amateur strips. They might contain some artwork done by a pro (eg.:FANTASY ILLUSTRATED); but you will find no text articles nor fan fiction therein.
7) The method of reproduction by which the majority of the pages were done. Dit means that the material was hand printed, hand written, typed or drawn on ditto masters and run off on either a hetrograph or a duplicator. Mim means that it was reproduced on a mimeograph and lit stands for lithograph/offset work.
8) The price of one copy of one issue plus the cost of having it sent flat/mint in a large envelope. Eg: 50+10 means that one copy costs 50¢ plus 10¢ more or 60¢ total if you want it sent flat in an envelope. 50 + 5 means that the envelope costs an additional nickel and 50+15 means that an additional 15¢ is required for flat mailing. 50+0 means that all copies are automatically mailed flat at no additional charge. This info is as correct as I can make it and about the only thing you can go wrong on is sending 10¢ for an envelope when that particular issue is sent flat at no extra charge. The subscription price is only given on zines who have a proven record of bi-monthly or more publication.
9) The rating or grading of the zines on a scale of five; with a five the highest and a 1 the lowest. I realize that this grading is only my personal opinion; but it is better than nothing and that is exactly what has been done to date toward rating all active zines. No method of grading can please everyone and I expect that all of you will disagree with me in the rating of at least one zine. The discriminating fan will complain that I assigned the second & third positions to too many crudzines; while the amateur strip fiend will be peeved that all pubs devoted to same didn't capture the top two slots instead of the 3rd and 4th ones they were assigned. It is impossible to give an accurate grade on all zines for various reasons. One is that an issue of a zine can be crud and the next one excellent or vice versa. Another is that an issue can contain a small percentage of quality and a big percentage of "waste paper" material; while a third stems from having good material ruined by poor reproduction.

It would be impossible to take all factors into consideration, so I decided to concentrate on the following main points: quality and layout of the material; clearness and permanancy of the reproduction; availability and possibility of the publisher to continue publishing a top zine or improve a poorer one; and to some extent the average price and size of an issue of the publication. Where the first issue of a zine has yet to see print or the next issue will be published by someone else or with a vast improvement in reproduction I made a guess as to what its rating will be. The following definition for each number should serve to make sure that no one shells out for a publication that they think isn't worth the time to read.

I wish to make clear first that there are two types of material--written and drawn--and your degree of interest in each category determines which and how many pubs you want to acquire. You might want most or all of the zines with text material and only the top

ones devoted to the amateur strips. You might want all zines containing amateur strips and only the 4 or 5 ones with text material. Unless you like them both the same, please keep each category in mind when deciding weather or not the rating of the zine is high enough for you to chance ordering it.

(5) All fans collectors of comic amateur publications should acquire all zines with a 5 rating.

(4) Only the highly discriminating fen (those who think that Bob Jennings isn't strict enough in his review of comic zines in his own pub, TCR) whould refrain from purchasing or at least reading a copy of all issues with a 4 rating.

(3) Any person who thinks that Jennings is not too strict in his zine reviews should NOT bother with any zines with a 3 or less rating. These "3" zines contain little or no material of any real value and those who want such things as: critical comment and lots of info in well written and research articles, clear and easy to read repro., top amateur artwork and well planned and thoughtout layout should not waste their time on them. There pubs will satisfy any person who is content if the issue contains only one piece of prime material and a maximum of one penny per page in cost. They will read: articles that contain nothing new or of interest to the well informed; fan fiction that others term crud and strips they think that a kindergartener could improve on. Many of these zines are fine and worthwhile for the beginners who have little knowledge or those who enjoy fan fiction and artwork; but they are of little or no value to those who know all the common facts, like nothing but top artwork, litho reproduction, professional layout, pro quality fiction and articles chock full of detailed date and critical comment.

(2) These pubs contain fair reproduction, few pages, shallow articles poor artwork, crud layout, louzy collation and stapling, adverts from the publisher and maybe a few friends trying to sell recent junk items, lots of details on the next "top" issue and anything else that goes into the composition of a near ink waster. One has to feel sorry for the publisher or want to help out a friend to purchase them.

(1) These are crud zines and only completests with money to throw away should get them. I don't have the money to throw away, but I order them anyway so whenever I want to compose a biblio of comic zines I'll have the material on hand to do so. I also help the publisher out by keeping his pub from being a total loss.

10) Any data, comments, etc. pertinent to the publisher or the publication is given.

ALTER EGO (#7) is published by Roy Thomas, 3600 Hallmark, Apt. G, St. Louis, Missouri, zc 63125. lit., 50+10, 5.

ACTION HERO (#4) is published by Sherman & Wayne Howard, 3776 East 154th Street, Cleveland, Ohio, 44128. dit., 30+10, 3.

AMERICAN ALLIES (#1-Mar'64) is published by Anthony Figueroa, 257 54th Street, Brooklyn, New York. (as), xerox, 50+10, 3.

ATOMIC MAN (#6) is published by Bruce Williams, 8426 North Christana Avenue, Skokie, Ill. 60077. (as), xerox, 25+10, 1.

AURORA (#5) is to be combined with POPULAR HEROES ILLUSTRATED to form a new zine entitled TRIDENT. Copies of the fifth issue of AURORA may still be available from Len Wein, 118 Blue Spruce Road, Levittown, New York, 11756. dit., 30+10, 3.

AN AUTHORITIVE INDEX TO D.C. COMICS (second edition) is published by Jerry G. Bails, 22529 Karam Court, Warren, Michigan, 48091. dit., $1.50+0, 5.

BATMANIA (#3) is published by Billy Joe White, Box 115, Columbia, Missouri, 65202. dit., 30+10, 4.

BEACON (formerly POPULAR DEMANDS) (#2-Mar'64) is published by Beacon Publications, 3753 Marilyn Drive, Seaford, New York, 11783. dit., 30+10, 3.

BRAVE ADVENTURES (#1-Apr'64) is published by Chuck Dean, W3505 Crown Place, Spokane 15, Wash. dit., 35+10, 2.

BULLS EYE (#2-Feb'64) is published by Fred Bronson, 11620 Port Road, Culver City, Calif. 90230, dit., 35+10, 3. Mr. Bronson informs me that a third issue will be out and that he is trying to get some reliable person to take over as editor/publisher of the zine. It is not known if Mr. Bronson himself will put out the third issue if he can't get anyone else to do a decent job on it.

BURROUGHS BULLETIN (#15) is available to members of the Burroughs Bibliophilies free of charge. Write to the secretary of the BB's: Rita Coriell, 6657 Locust, Kansas City, Mo. 64131, for details. (ERB), lit., 5.

BURROUGHS ILLUSTRATED (#1) is published by Joseph Wehrle, 539 West Mahoning Street, Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. (as), (ERB), offset, 25+0, 4. This is the first and last issue of BI, tho' not the last of Mr. Wehrle's amateur publication career. His next publication will contain material of his own creation entitled FAWN THE DARK-EYED. It will still be offset, 25+0 or 4 for $1.00+0 and probably rate a 5 instead of just a four. Copies of the first issue containing picturized versions of a part of two Burroughs tales (LOST ON VENUS & LAND THAT TIME FORGET) are still available for only 25+0 and the only thing that kept the first issue of BI from getting a 5 grade was the fact that some fen will think the number of pages was too few for the price and the material had no definite beginning or ending; but rather just depicts a scene from each of the two tales.

BURROUGHS READER (#6) is published by Dave Broadhurst, 256 E. 14th, Idaho Falls, Idaho, 83401. (ERB), #6 was mimeo; but #7 on will be digest size (7"x10") and lit., 50+0 or 3 for $1.00+0. 5.

CHARACTER GET TOGETHER (#3-May'64) is available from Charles Rogers Jr., 6961 Riddick Str. Norfolk, Virginia. (as), dit., 20+10, 3.

COMIC ADVERTISING REVIEW (#9) is published by Robert Jennings, 3819 Chambers Drive, Nashville, Tennessee, 37211. mim., 2/25¢, 4/50¢, 6/75¢ or 8/$1.00 plus 10¢ for each issue mailed flat. Bi-weekly or monthly at most; so your sub will not be misspent. 5. #9 will be out in Jan., 1965 and this will be the last issue.

COMIC ART (#5) The publisher (Don & Maggie Thompson) do not need any more subscribers; so no data will be given for this zine.

COMIC COMMENTS (#1-Apr'64) is published by Grey Feldman, 9549 South Bennett, Chicago, Ill. 60617. dit., 35+15, 2. #2 is delayed.

[illegible] (#3) is published by Jerry [illegible], [illegible] Street, S.W., Warren, Ohio, 4448[illegible]. dit., 20+10, 2.

[illegible] (#1-July'62) (formerly [illegible]) #2 on will be published by Gary Martin, 508 Browning Drive, Arlington, Texas, 76012. dit., 25+10, #1 was a 3 and #2 should be at least a 3 also.

[illegible] (#1) is published by Danny Cassidy, 5370 Redfac St., Jacksonville, Fla. 32205. dit., 35+5, 2. The second issue is now out and rates a 3.

[illegible] (#1-Feb'64) is published by Jerry Hasson, 2665 Byron Pl., Los Angeles, Calif. 91722. dit., 2. The second issue will be lit at 50+0 and rate at least a 3.

COMIC NEWS (#2) is published by Bruce Williams, 8525 North Christiane Avenue, Skokie Ill. 60077. xerox, 40+10, 1.

[illegible] (#33) is published by Glen D. Johnson, Box 126, Crownpoint, New Mexico, 87313. dit., 25+0 for first class mailing. For flat mailing in large envelope send a large envelope with a 5¢ stamp + 25¢. Academy members can get CR for 20+0 or 20+a large envelope with a 5¢ stamp on it for flat mailing.

[illegible] & FUTURE (#1-Aug'63) is published by Fred Rosanek, 4928 Enfield Avenue, Encino, California, 91316. dit., 30+10, 3.

[illegible] (#3) is published by Mike Garrett, 6501 3rd Avenue South, Birmingham, Ala. 35212. Next (#4) to be final issue. dit., 15+10, 1. The zine is 5-1/2"x8-1/2" and sent with a piece of paper wrapped around it as a mailing wrapper like THE ROCKET'S BLAST. #4 to be a 1 too; so save your money.

[illegible] (#5) is published by Robert Jennings, 3819 Chambers Drive, Nashville, Tenn. 37211. mim., 40+10, 5. #7 will be the last issue.

[illegible] (#5) (formerly published by Ron Kettle) #6 on will be published by Tommy Prouty, 2915 Rust Avenue, Texas City, Texas, 77590 at 40+0 and should rate a 4. C-A rated a 3 under Kettle and back issues are still available from him at 3901 Rust Avenue, Texas City Texas, 77590 for 40+10.

[illegible] (#1) is published by William James, 237 Kenna Drive, South [illegible], West Virginia. xerox, 15+0, 1.

[illegible] (#2 Mar'64) is published by Donald W. Schenk, 7 Glendale Drive, Freehold, New Jersey, 07728. [illegible], dit., 35+10, 3. #3 will be 60 pages and 50+10.

[illegible] (#3) is published by James Rosnow, 906 Beale Street, South Bend, Indiana, 46616. dit., 35+15, 4.

[illegible] (#13) (formerly published by Ronn Foss) is now published by Robert Butts, [illegible] Pierce Street, South Bend, Indiana, 46416. It is available only to comiczine publishers and editors and the artists and writers of fandom for a copy of their zine or LOC's on D&C. The general fans are advised to request that the editor publishers of the zines they receive print the 'cream' from D&C in their own publication as D&C is unavailable to all nonmembers of 'The Amateur' Authors and Artists Association'. It is dittoed and rates a 5.

[illegible] (#1) is published by John Ryan of Australia, but is available from his U.S. agent: Larry Herndon, 1830 Highland, Carrollton, Texas 75006. dit., 40+10, [illegible]

DUAL IDENTITY (#1) is published by Bill Bruesch, 708 Kemp Place, Covina, California 91722. dit., 35+10, 3.

[illegible] (#15) is published by D. Peter Ogden, 8001 Fairview Lane, Tampa, Florida 33615 (ERB), lit., 30+0 or 4/$1.00-0, 5.

[illegible] (#10-May '64) is published by Camile Cazedessus Jr., 23500 East Contour Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70 809. (ERB), lit., 40+0, 5.

[illegible] (#1) is published by Ray Bartel, 15735 West Virginia Avenue, Paramount, California, 90723. mim., 20+10, 2.

[illegible] (#1) is published by Lon Mitchell, 4340 Berick, Toledo, Ohio, 43612 (as), dit., 25+10, 3.

[illegible] (one-shot?) is published by Marty Arbunich, 60 Gladys Street, San Francisco, California, 94110. dit., $1.25+0, 5.

[illegible] (formerly KOMIX ILLUSTRATED) (#12) #13 will be published by Michael Martin, 1620 Deerwood Street, West Sacramento, California, 95691. KI #12 was dittoed at 30+0 and rated a 4. FANTASCOPE #1(KI #13 costs 35+0 and will be out sometime in the near or far future. It will probably be dittoed and should rate at least a 3.

[illegible] is defunked; but #2, 3 and 4 are still available from William Dubay, 58A Chenery Street, San Francisco, California, 94110. dit., 40+0, 4.

FANTASY [illegible] (First and last issue) title changed to VOICE OF COMICDOM with the second issue. is still available from Marty Arbunich, 60 Gladys Street, San Francisco, California, 94110 at 50+0. It is lithoed and rates a 5

[illegible] (#2) is published by Bill Spicer, 418 N. West Stocker Street, Glendale, California, 91202. lit., 50+0, 5.

[illegible] (formerly Robert Butts) (#4) #5 on will be published by Keith Greene, 545 Cleveland Avenue, South Bend, Indiana, at 25+0. It will be dittoed as were previous ish of F to F and should have the same rating, a 3.

[illegible] (#1) is published by Charles Rogers Jr., 6961 Riddick Street Norfolk, Virginia. (as), dit., 40+10, 3.

[illegible] (#12) is published by Gordon B. Love, 9875 SW 212 Street, Miami, Florida. The first 12 issues were dittoed and rated a [illegible]. #13 on will be printed photo-stencilled throughout on 24 lb. mimeo paper and contain the usual amateur strips as have all issues to date. The price hasn't been determined at this time, so watch the pages of THE [illegible] BLAST-COMIC COLLECTOR for news as to when the first (actually 13th) iss is ready and how much it'll sell for.

[illegible] (#1) is published by Howard Dreher, 420 Pelham Road, Rochester, New York 14610. mim., 20+10, 2.

[illegible] (#1) is published monthly by Paul Gambaccini, 8 Elizabeth Drive, Westport, Conn. 06880. It is free to supporting members of the academy and unavailable to those who

are non-members. dit., 5. Stamps to help defray the cost of postage are not only appreciated and welcomed; but a gift of same will show that you take more than a passing interest in keeping the academy in the black and allowing it to use any funds on more important projects.

GLORY COMICS (#1) is published by Jeff Gleb, 125 Glen Ellyn Way, Rochester, New York, 14618. mim., 25+0 , quarter.size, 1.

GRIDLEY WAVE (#16) is available to members of the BURROUGHS BIBLIOPHILIES free of charge (same as the BB). Write to the secretary of the BB's; Rita Coriell, 6657 Locust, Kansas City, Missouri, 64131, for details. (ERB), lit., 5.

HEADLINE (#3) (formerly published by Steve Gerber) is published by Steve Grant, 7218 Dartmouth, University City, Missouri, 63130. The first three issues under Steve Gerber rated a 3 and the fourth (and S.G.'s first) should rate it too. dit., 35+10, and probably 3.

HEROES HANGOUT (#2-May'64) is published by Rudolph Frankie, 5448 Foothill Blvd., Oakland 1, California. dit., 40+10, 4.

JEDDAK (#6) is published by Paul Moslander, 1206 31 avenue, San Mateo, California, 94403. dit., 40+10, 5.

K-ALPHA (#4) is available to members only from Jerry Bails, 22529 Karam Court, Warren Michigan, 48091. Write Jerry for details if you are willing and able to compose, publish and send Jerry material for inclusion in K-ALPHA (the World's first Comic Amateur Press Association). dit., 5.

KOMIX HEROES OF THE FUTURE (#8) is published by Donald W. Schenk, 7 Glendale Drive, Freehold, New Jersey, 07728. dit., 35+10, 3.

KOMIX MASTER (#1) will be published soon from Doug Tucker, 4611 Market Street, Oakland 8, California. It is advertised as an offset zine at 40+10 and should be out by Feb.,'65.

KOMIC THRILLS (#1) is published by Chuck Dean, 302 Edgewood Drive, Olympia, Washington. (as), dit., 35+10, 3.

MASK & CAPE (#3) The first three issues were crud ones, due to unreadable reproduction, put out by Margaret Gemignani. The fourth and future ones will be published by Steve Perrin, Box 357, Summit City, California, 96089. Steve's first issue should be out soon. It will be lit., sell for 50+0 and be at least a 3.

MASQUERADER The first six issues were put out by Mike Vosburg and averaged a 4 rating; with the last one a lithoed job rating a 5. The next (and seventh issue) will be published by Chuck Moss, Box 81, Bellevue, Nebraska, 68005 at 50+10. It will be lithoed and rate at least a four; probably a 5.

MEN OF MYSTERY (#1) is published by Jeff Gelb, 125 Ellyn Way, Rochester, New York, 14618. mim., 25+10, 3.

ODD MAGAZINE (#8) is published by ODD MAGAZINE (Herring Bros), 184 Hartford St., Natick, Mass., 01762. (as), dit., 15+0, 8/$1.00+0, 4.

ODWAN (#1) is published by Ken Free, 11995 Walbrook Drive, Saratoga, California. The first issue was mimeographed, cost 35+0 and rated a 4. The second issue will be lithoed, sell for the same price and probably rate a 5. Mr. Free is getting his own offset plate reproducer, printing press and the other accessories needed to print up his own material, thereby keeping reproduction costs to the minimum of offset work at the same or a little more of mimeo rates.

PATHWAY TO ADVENTURE (#1) is published by Jerry Smith, 918 W. Pierson, Phoenix, Arizona 85013. dit., 25+10, 1.

REVIEW (#1-Spring'63) is published by Larry D. Sipe, 309 Adrian Street, Mount Holly, North Carolina. mim., 35+10, 2.

ROCKET'S BLAST-COMIC COLLECTOR (#35) is published by Gordon B. Love, 9875 SW 212 Street, Miami 57, Florida. dit., 4/$1.25+4/$1.65 or 8/$2.00+8/$2.80 or 12/$3.25+12/$4.20 or for those short of cash this bi-monthly publication is available for 1/35+1/45. 5.

ROCKET'S BLAST SPECIAL (#4) is published by Gordon B. Love, 9875 SW 212 Street, Miami 57, Florida. dit., 30+10, 5.

SABER (#2) is published by Donald W. Schenk, 7 Glendale Drive, Freehold, New Jersey, 07728. dit., 25+10, 3.

SLAM-BANG (#2) is published by Richard Weingroff, 3231 Southgreen Road, Baltimore, Md. 21205. xerox, 50+10, 5. The third issue will be the last.

SPIDERMAN FAN CLUB NEWSLETTER (#3) is the official club publication of the SMFC headed by Joseph Shea, 78 Eagan Drive, Lackawanna, New York, 14218. Dues are 15¢ a month and members are entitled to purchase 'NEWS' for 10¢, the forthcoming MARVEL MANUAL for 40¢, etc. 'NEWS' is dittoed (the #2and3 contained mimeographed material supplied by me, a practice since discontinued) and rates a 2 on the average. The Marvel MANUAL will be published by Robert Metz, 2424 Kirkham Street, San Francisco, California, 94122 and interested persons can write him for details or send 40+10 for a copy when advertised as out. It should rate a three, possibly a 4, if the contents lives up to what I've been told about it.

STAR STUDDED COMICS (#5) is published by 'The Texas Trio' c/o Larry Herndon, 1830 Highland, Carrollton, Texas, 750 06. (as), lit., 50+10, 5.

STRIPPER (#1) is published by Billy Joe White, Box 135, Columbia, Missouri, 65202. mim. 30+10, 4. THE STRIPPER is for fans and collectors of newspaper comic strips. Now defunked.

SUPER HERO (#2-Mar'63) is published by Mike Tuohey, 16857 Sunderland, Detroit, Michigan. 48219. dit., 30+10, 5. The third (and final) issue is way overdue and it is not known when or if it will ever come out.

SUPER STAGE (#1-May'64) is published by Bob Gansing, 3507 Firestone, Pensacola, Florida.

(pin-ups of active super heroes done by Rob Sanving), 25+10, 1. Rob put out two issues of SS in May of '64 and no more since so the zine could be delinked.

[illegible] (#5) is published by London Mitchell, 4340 Berwick, Toledo, Ohio, 43612. dit., 35+10, 3.

TRADING POST (#1) is published by Ross Knight, 1008 W. Leland Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60640, dit., 25+5, 3. This is basically an ad zine, but it does contain some comic articles and other non-advertising material. STAR #1 will not appear as such; some of the material compiled for Star will appear in TP #2 and future issues. All those who ordered Star will receive TP instead.

VOICE OF COMICDOM (formerly FANTASY HEROES HANGOUT) (#3) is published by William Dubay, 58A Cheney Street, San Francisco, California, 94110. dit., 15+0, 3.

WHO'S WHO IN COMICDOM (second edition) is available from Jerry Bails, 22555 Karam Court, Warren, Michigan, 48091, at $1.50+0, or given free to anyone who becomes a supporting member of the Academy by sending Jerry a mere $2.00 a year dues. This directory is a MUST for anyone who considers himself any degree of comic fan, if only for the fact that it contains the name, address, age, occupation, likes and other data on every comic fan said data was available on at the time of publication. The most sensible way to acquire the directory is to send in $2.00 and become a supporting member, since the value of it and the 5¢ per issue saving in purchasing THE COMIC READER alone more than makes up for your dues; but get it even if you will only shell out $1.50 for a copy and you won't be sorry that you did.

WIZARD OF VENUS (one shot) is available from Dale Broadhurst, 256 E. 14th, Idaho Falls, Idaho, 83401. (ERB) (as) lit., $1.50+0, 5. This publication contains a 36 page strip adaption by Mike Royer of ERB's short tale, "The Wizard of Venus" and as an added bonus has front and back cover illus done by Harry E. Habblitz.

WONDERFUL WORLD OF KOMIX (#1) is published by Gary Acord, 3035 Gladiolus Lane, Dallas, Texas, 75233, drs., the price of it is not known at present and purchasers are asked to watch future issues of THE ROCKET'S BLAST as the details on same will be advertised when the issue is ready, 3.

WRITERS FELLOWSHIP BULLETIN (#3) is published by Robert Bails, 719 Pierce Street, South Bend, Indiana, 46616. dit., writers, would be writers, former writers, etc. can get at least one copy free for the asking, 5.

YANCY STREET JOURNAL (#6) is available from Marty Arbunich, 60 Gladys Street, San Francisco, California, 94110. dit., 15+10, 5.

[illegible] (formerly Fantastic) (#6) is published by John Chambers, 2195 Victor Avenue, Redding California, 96001, dit., 25+10, 3.

[illegible] Walt Taylor printed up the third issue of his zine over four months ago; but then for various reasons did not send out the copies nor refund any payment sent for same. The only copy I'm aware of that he sent to anyone is the one that he sent Ronn Foss to review in C.C at the time. I now own said copy and while it only rates a two, that is no excuse for Walt Taylor to refuse to fulfill his obligation to the purchasers by either sending them a copy of the item or refunding their money. Master Taylor states that one reason he has not sent out the material is that he doesn't have the postage to do so. Well, I wish to state here that if he will send me my copies postage due I will pay the postman the fee when they arrive, or he can pay the postage and I'll refund him same when they arrive. One shouldn't have to go to such lengths to get a purchased zine;

but that is what us completests have to do in order to keep up our collections anywhere near complete. I will not send Walt Taylor one cent for anything else the' and I advise all others to do the same.

COMIC WORLD NEWS Master Paul Feola informs me that the eleventh issue of CWN was positively the final issue. Paul owes me too much money (for him) to refund my payments for unpublished issue of various publications (so it would seem since my requests for when and if he'll pay me same have gone unanswered); but I have heard from others who get their money back. One said that Paul told him that he is fed up with comics and in effect has become an anti-comics fan. I guess he was disappointed too much when his zine didn't turn out to be a FI, A-E or other TOP publication. I'm sure I don't have to advise anyone not to send Paul Feola any loot.

When ordering any publications put out by Rudy Frankie, Marty Arbunich, Barry Bauman or Bill Dubay, I would advise you NOT to send any money to Bauman as he takes way too long to send you your material. Mr. Dubay is not exactly a fast mailer either. Your best bet is to send it to Arbunich if possible and Frankie as second choice. If you send it to the other two, there is no telling how long it'll be before you receive any material.

I think that everyone will agree that John McGeehan deserves a special thanks for the wonderful job he did compiling the checklist. When I asked for volunteers, John quickly volunteered his service, which without, I doubt the checklist would have been as complete. Since John has gone thru so much work, I'd like to know how you feel about again publishing an updated version in about six months. I suggest that all editors keep John informed, and send him any corrections.

In TCR #30 Jerry Bails suggested TCR begin a campaign against underlivered fanzines. I published his letter, but received very few complaints. Most fans were reluctant to name fanzines, but many said they would like to, but just when they gave up expecting a certain fanzine, it would arrive. Roan Foss is strongly against naming off the editors and name of these zines, and since I have received only 13 complaints against 9 different zines, I'm not going to name these zines. When I sent word to different editors that I was going to list all zines I'd paid for and never received, I quickly received three of the four. For those who strongly feel that these should be named, I'll try to publish your letters if you care to write.

Glen

* *

I've received requests for the addresses of Alex Almaraz, who has prints of the Chicago meet, and Jeremy A. Barry, who writes the zine review of TCR.

Alex Almaraz, 4428 So. Wood, Chicago, Ill., 60609
Jeremy A. Barry, 613 E. Cottage Grove, Bloomington, Ind., 47403

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PLEASE do not write personal checks to THE COMIC READER. Also, do not address any of the letters THE COMIC READER, c/o Glen D. Johnson. Some fans have addressed letters in this manner and these letters wind up in Riders mail box, and I don't receive them for a week or more. Contributors, please send an addressed envelope for your free issue or state which issue you would like.

WANTED by Glen Johnson	DAREDEVIL #42 PRIZE WESTERN #87, 88, 89, 91 on. BIG SHOT 1-15 LEADING #6 (will trade #3 for #6) ALL-STAR #36 (will trade #33 for #36)

THE EGO CRUSHER
by
Jeremy A. Barry

THE ROCKET'S BLAST #35(THE SFCA, XXXXXX 9875 SW 212 St., Miami 57, Fla. - ditto & mimeo - 45¢ - irregular) The thick advertising fanzine of comic fandom. Once again it appears to be on the upswing. More and longer articles plus better art and an improving letter column make this issue worthwhile even for those who don't care much for the ads. As usual RB is chock full of advertisements listing for sale or trade a multitude of comics, fanzines, and other sundry items. After several issues in which the printing was very irregular in quality, this one is much easier to read. There are still a few rough spots where the print is illegible, and one can sympathize with those whose ads fall into this category. Paul Gambaccini has taken over the Rocketeer Gossip column, and shows evidence of being able to carry on in fine style, as did his predecessor. Seuling's Corner is a new column sort of like the things written by Earl Wilson or Walter Winchell in the newspapers. It'll amuse you for the few minutes it takes to read. The feature article by Dave Bibby concerns Plastic Man and contains examples of some of the original art. One could still wish for more articles in each issue. Yet it is understandable why this cannot be. There are too few qualified writers, publication of RB is rather frequent, and it is primarily an advertising magazine. With these factors kept in mind, it would seem that RB is filfilling its main purpose while endeavoring to please those who want something more than mere advertisements.

MASTERMIND #1(MASTERMIND, 320 E. 2nd. St., Edmond, Okla. 73034 - ditto - 40¢ - quarterly) While the reproduction is quite adequate, the text and art contained in the magazine are not. In particular the two comic strips are resplendent with very poorly drawn artwork and stories of equally poor quality. One of them is meant to be humorous, but unfortunately the authors don't seem capable of transmitting the fun to the reader. The result is a most stupid strip, The Glider. The editorial is long-winded with nothing important to say, and the articles are uniformly shallow. A review of PEP COMICS #1 by Marty Arbunich turns out to be little more than pure summary with hardly any analysis of the quality of stories and art. Phil Seuling has a column of comment much like that in ROCKET'S BLAST, and while amusing, is hardly worth the price of the zine. Another bright light in this bleak picture is the book review column of John Wooley. XXXXX He knows how to review without writing simmaries, and has interesting opinions. Would that more writers could do this! There are other items, but none worth mentioning. It is to be hoped that the next ish of MASTERMIND will show more thought behind it and contain material of higher quality and greater interest.

THE COMIC ADVERTISING REVIEW #9(Robert Jennings, 3819 Chambers Dr., Nashville, Tenn. 37211X- mimeo - 15¢ - defunct) This being a slim adzine, it doesn't really rate a review, but rather a notice of publication and availability. Unfortunately, even this is no longer possible. Bob Jennings announced that #9 was his last issue, and that he was semi-retiring from comic fandom. Rumors have it that he intends to spend a year thinking about his relation to the field. Unless he decides to continue in fandom, he probably won't be heard from afain. Bob contributed a lot to our field of interest through

his major fanzine COMIC WORLD. He and his publications will be sorely missed. In the meantime he may still have back copies of his zines available. If any of you still have not sampled COMIC WORLD yet, then you might try buying back issues of #s 3, 5, & 6, the only ones he had for sale. These cost 40¢ each and are well worth it. Also available are issues 4-8 of CAR at 15¢ each. Farewell, Bob.

SLAM-BANG #3(Rick Weingroff, 3231 Southgreen Road, Baltimore, Md. 21207 - multilith - 50¢ - irregular) When it was announced a few months ago that Rick Weingroff was leaving comic fandom, a loud groan went up. However, it would seem that Rick has found a way to maintain his interest in the field, though limiting his activities. Fortunately this includes his excellent publication, SLAM-BANG, and indications are that there will be future issues when Rick can manage it. The current one maintains the high quality of the first two issues. There is no hack fiction, or poor super-hero comic strips, or articles and reviews consisting of story summaries. Instead there are five articles written on a plane which other fanzines might well try to emulate. Bob Jennings discusses the reasons why the Justice Society of America must be destroyed in order for the Justice League of America to ever amount to anything. Gardner Fox replies with a different point of view. The creator of Wonder Woman, William Moulton Marston, discusses the reasons why 100 million people read comics, and at the same time tells how and why WW was created. In addition he briefly covers the history of comic art development. A very interesting article by a psychologist who was in favor of comic books. Enough has been written to give you an idea what S-B contains. Many fans have been screaming bout crudzines and the general poor quality of 80% of fanzines. SLAM-BANG is one of the few excellent publications comic fandom possesses. Support of this magazine will encourage the editor to continue its publication, and may well inspire other editors to better things. Back issues of #1 & 2 are still available.

BATMANIA #3(Billy J. White, P.O. Box 115, Columbia, Mo. 65202 - ditto & mimeo - 30¢ - irregular) As the title implies, this fanzine deals with Batman and characters associated with him. It is also the journal of a new society, The Batmanians. Anyone who is interested in joining should send a self-addressed and stamped envelope with their request for membership. The zine is well printed with the bonus of having Bill's fine artwork. Batman fans do not delay, order BATMANIA right away!

YANCY STREET JOURNAL #6 (Marty Arbunich, 60 Gladys St., San Francisco, Calif. 94110 - ditto - 15¢ - quite frequent) The fanzine dedicated to discussion of the Marvel comics of Stan Lee. In addition to opinionated reviews of the current and recent Marvel comics there are articles and forums dealing with topics of interest to Marvel comic fans. Among the current discussions is the question as to whether or not Captain America should have a sidekick, and what to do about the lack of a secret identity in his "new" stories. The weakest part of the zine is the letter column. One line letters just don't make interesting reading. If Marvel comics are of great interest to you, then this well printed and low priced zine should be your cup of tea.

SEND REVIEW COPIES TO: J. A. BARRY, 613 E. COTTAGE GROVE, BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA 47403. I can't buy all zines, and can't review those I don't receive.

LATE NEWS

ON THE DRAWING BOARD/ ON THE FOUR-COLOR PRESSES/ ON THE STANDS

DOOM PATROL artist Bruno Premiani drew a series of biographical comicbooks (Lincoln, Washington, Jefferson, Whitman, etc.) for the U.S. State Dept. in 1949 which were translated and used in the FAR EAST.

MANDRAKE. Phil Davis's wife, who for many years has collaborated with him in the drawing of the strip, has taken over the full task.

KING FEATURES SYNDICATE has adopted a new policy regarding requests for original cartoons. Those who request originals are being asked to make a contribution of $5.00 or more to the Milt Cross Fund, a truly worthy charity that aids cartoonists who are faced with a temporary financial crisis.

TARZAN. Mike Henry, Los Angeles Rams linebacker, is to be the 14th Tarzan since the series started in 1918.

BOOKWEEK (book review magazine) for Jan. 24,1965 had an interesting article on Batman, plus mention of many other super-heroes. Bookweek is distributed each Sunday with the three newspapers listed:. NEW YORK HEROLD-TRIBUNE, WASHINGTON POST, SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER. No doubt these papers still have copies of the Jan. 24 edition available. Most papers backstock at least a month.

JLA. The June JLA is titled, "Case of the Disabled Justice League" a paralleled story to the JSA tale "A Place in the World"-it reintroduces Johnny Thunder and his Thunderbolt.

B&B #59. Batman/Green Lantern will be illustrated by Romona Frandom (pencils) and Charles Paris(inks). Reports are still coming in on Metamorpho and George Kashdam has not decided on his future.

RIP HUNTER.. A novel story is coming up in which a robot narrates the story.

AQUAMAN. George Kashdam is contemplating having a baby born to Aquaman and Mera.

CHALLENGERS. The League of Challenger Haters will appear in a forthcoming issue, this time a book length novel.

* *

Danny Cassidy
5514 Norde Drive
Jacksonville, Fla.

After reading Doug Potter's letter in TCR #32 I have this to say. No. 1 - You are the ONLY person who dared to stand up for Infantino and Kubert in fandom when the chips were down (great response, eh?). No. 2 - You gave no reason as to why Infantino's art is not unrealistic. I will now give reasons as to why it is. First of all let's pick up a copy of Flash #150. Take a look at the cover. Look at that wonderful background if there is one. Now take a look at what little illustrating there is. The Flash behind Capt. Cold looks like he's sixty years old. Most fan artists could top that cover and think nothing about it. Need I say more? No. 3 - If Joe Kubert's art is so wonderful how is it that it only appears in war mags? D.C. pushed him aside some time ago. No wonder. Look what he did to the Sandman, Dr. Fate, the old Flash, and who knows what else? His so widely acclaimed artwork on Hawkman was evidently not appreciated by the editors. If he had been overworked as they said and his Hawkman art was all so good why didn't they let him discontinue illustrating one of the war mags and continue illustrating Hawkman. Need I say more?

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They aren't the only two that are goofing off at D.C., though. D.C. has fallen down to third place in quality in stories and art. Gold Key and Marvel have left them a mile behind. If you don't believe it take a look at all of the poor magazines D.C. puts out. Aquaman, Metal Men, Wonder Woman, the entire Superman family, Challengers, the War line, the love line, the humor line, Atom, and practically the whole company's publications have deteriorated. Flash and the JLA are at the top and you know what I think about them. The future of comics, in my opinion, rests with Marvel and Gold Key as DC shows very little intention of changing.

Maybe if Doug wore Glasses with prisms he could see straight.

((Danny....I didn't answer your letter because I was sure someone else would in detail. Some commented on it, but only a phrase such as, "Is he serious?" or "Come on, Danny Cassidy must be kidding." None were long enough, or interesting enough to print, but I'm hoping this letter will bring better results. Glen))

* *

SLAM-BANG #3 IS NOW READY

Fandom's greatest analysis fanzine is now in its third, big issue. Leading off the issue is "Star, Spangle, and Stuntman", a review of Simon and Kirby. There is no attempt at relating history, or narrating origin stories -- this article simply discusses their style as it's never been discussed before. The second BIG article is a reprint from a 1943, <u>The American Scholar</u> of an article written by William Moulton Marston, the creator of Wonder Woman. You'll find out why and how Wonder Woman was created in this article. The third feature article is "Why Funny Books?" a discussion which explains why funny books are popular, according to psychological opinion on the subject. Also included are "Lee III", the abbreviated third part of Slam-Bang's discussion of Marvel comics, and "The Justice Society of America Must be Destroyed", an opinion by Bob Jennings. As if that weren't enough, Slam-Banger, the letter column, contains letters from Jerry Bails, Otto Binder, Gardner Fox, Bob Jennings and Russ Manning.

SLAM-BANG #3 can be yours within two weeks if you get your orders out now for this multilithed fanzine. Printing quality, equal to photo offset minus the photos, is at an all-time high. Writing quality, by fandom and prodom's greatest writers, is at an all-time high. And with a bit of cooperation from our readers, our circulation can reach an all-time high. Just send 50¢ (or 60¢, if mailed in envelope) to Rich Weingroff, 3231 Southgreen Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21207, and your copy of Slam-Bang 3 will be put into the mail immediately. Don't miss out--we have a limited print run!

* *

TO Richard O'Brien
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Glen D. Johnson
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